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Identical letters dated 11 January 2012 from the Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, the President of the General Assembly and the President of the Security Council

On 11 January 2012, another prominent Iranian scientist, Mostafa Ahmadi Roshan, fell victim to a blind terrorist attack in Tehran. The victim was a Sharif University of Technology graduate in chemical engineering and served as deputy director of Iran's Natanz nuclear facility. In this incident two other innocent people were seriously injured, one of whom died later at the hospital as a result of his wounds.

As you are aware, this is not the first time that the Iranian scientists have come under malicious terrorist attacks. Previously, I informed you in a letter (A/65/622-S/2010/634) about the assassination attempts against two prominent Iranian physicists: Majid Shahriari and Fereydoun Abbasi Davani (currently heading Iran's Atomic Energy Organization) on 29 November 2010 as a result of which Majid Shahriari was martyred and Fereydoun Abbasi Davani and his wife were seriously injured. In the same series of terrorist attacks another Iranian scientist, Professor Massoud Ali Mohammadi, was martyred in front of his house on 12 January 2010.

Based on the existing evidence collected by the relevant Iranian security authorities, similar to previous incidents, perpetrators used the same terrorist method in assassinating Iranian nuclear scientists, i.e. attaching a sticky magnetic bomb to the car carrying the scientists and detonating it. Furthermore, there is firm evidence that certain foreign quarters are behind such assassinations. As has been claimed by these circles, such terrorist acts have been carried out as part of the efforts to disrupt Iran's peaceful nuclear programme, under the false assumption that diplomacy alone would not be enough for that purpose. These quarters have spared no efforts in depriving the Islamic Republic of Iran of its inalienable right to peaceful nuclear energy and have called for conducting covert operations ranging from assassinating Iranian nuclear scientists to launching a military strike on Iran, as well as sabotaging Iran's nuclear programme.

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Now, the question remains whether resorting to all unlawful and coercive measures, even terrorist acts, to prevent developing nations from exercising their right to development, including peaceful use of nuclear energy, is permissible.

While reiterating the peaceful nature of Iranian nuclear activities, I would like to emphasize, once again, that the Islamic Republic of Iran would not compromise over its inalienable right to use nuclear energy for peaceful purposes, and any kind of political and economic pressures or terrorist attacks targeting Iranian nuclear scientists could not prevent our nation from exercising this right.

The Islamic Republic of Iran expresses its deep concern over, and lodges its strong condemnation of, such cruel, inhumane and criminal acts of terrorism against the Iranian scientists. My country has suffered the most from acts of terrorism in terms of human losses and material damages in the past decades. It is highly expected from the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the President of the Security Council of the United Nations, as well as all other relevant organs and bodies, to condemn, in the strongest terms, these inhumane terrorist acts and to take effective steps towards elimination of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations.

It would be highly appreciated if the present letter could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 109, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mohammad **Khazaee**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative